

Another Bottom Falls Out. Chance to Break Your Neck. Good Wages, or Dividends. Can't Have Both.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE

People that speculate in stocks ask, "How many 'bottoms' has the market?" The bottom dropped out once more yesterday. Some stocks sold lower than ever before in all their lives.

Cotton, of course, and wheat dropped to keep the stocks company. There are wonderful bargains in the stock market now—also wonderful opportunities to break your neck financially.

Not long ago an enthusiastic friend who "knows" the market burst in with, "I'm giving you the best chance you'll ever have to make a fortune. Buy—every share you can carry." It was selling then at a hundred and ten dollars a share. The promoters had capitalized an idea to the tune of a million shares, and were selling that idea to the public for a hundred and ten million dollars.

Yesterday the stock was selling below fifty; the "idea" had dwindled. The enthusiastic friend was advised to go back and sell his wonderful tip "short" but, unfortunately for him, didn't do it.

An experienced man in Wall Street feels as though he were in Sinbad's Valley of Diamonds, with a rattlesnake head next to every diamond. It is hard to pick up anything without being stung. Yet what a pity to let the wonderful bargains in diamonds lie unopened.

The immediate cause of this baby panic is realization by private owners of railroads that they are not able to manage them or finance them.

If they had been wise, they would have taken the advice of a Chicago man, one of the biggest owners of railroad stocks in the United States. He said to his friends repeatedly, "For God's sake, let the Government KEEP the railroads! If you don't, two-thirds of them will be in bankruptcy." He was a prophet.

The railroad question comes down to this:

Shall railroads be run to continue paying dividends on watered stock—stock representing no money invested? And shall wages of men be cut to make dividend-paying possible?

OR, shall workmen receive the good wages that war brought them, and to do this shall water be squeezed out of the railroad stocks?

You might say off-hand, that human beings—their food, lodging, comfort—are more important than dividends, and that undoubtedly the water will be squeezed out of railroads and the men will continue to get good wages.

But that is NOT what is going to happen. The comfort of working men, good food, good clothes, good houses for their children ARE undoubtedly more important than dividends on watered stock, in the opinion of the angels.

But those that collect dividends on watered stock, the lawyers they hire, the people they put in office, are intelligent, concentrated, and stick together. It is easy to name a hundred of them, or four of them, that have more power than any five million workmen in the United States.

Therefore, the water will NOT be squeezed out of the watered stock. And the workmen's wages will be cut to make continued dividend-paying possible.

Will all that change some day? Certainly, but some day is a long way off.

Could there be any immediate solution of the problem? There could. If the Government would take ownership of the railroads, once for all, retaining able managers, paying them excellent salaries, discharging worthless hangers-on and grafters put in "for family reasons," the railroad problem could be solved.

The recent Government management amounted to this: It took over the railroads temporarily. Permanent public ownership was feared by the owners.

The Government stupidly left in charge the hired servants of the private owners. Those private servants were instructed to make Government management an absolute failure, and did all possible to make it a failure.

They encouraged men not to work, padded payrolls.

They forgot that it was dangerous to encourage men to move slowly and do half a day's work under Government management. They forgot they might acquire the habit and then keep it.

The big danger ahead of this country is not lack of dividends for private owners of railroads, but DISSATISFACTION among millions of workers.

If intelligent finance can take the groups of workers one at a time, and beat them one at a time, as Napoleon, keeping his army united, handled the separated Austrian units, all will go well for AWHILE for finance. But if at the same time ten million men—railroad, steel, packing house, and other workers—strike and go on the rampage, look out! It is easy to start a landslide. Those that now sleep comfortably and live free from worry should pay more attention to events in Europe, from swampy Petrograd to sunny Italy.

# CLARA HAMON'S MOTHER LEAVES DYING HUSBAND TO SEE TRIAL

## The Washington Times

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# HARDING NAMES OYSTER AND RUDOLPH

## CLARA NOT BAD, SAYS MOTHER

Always a Good Girl and Helped With Her Wages, She Declares.

BEGGED HER TO LEAVE JAKE

Grief-Stricken Parent Asserts She Would Die If Daughter Were Guilty.

By MILDRED MORRIS, International News Service. ARDMORE, Okla., March 12.—"He loved me," says Mrs. Jake Hamon.

"He loved me," says the other woman in the Hamon triangle. There are heart breaks for both women as the trial of Clara Smith Hamon proceeds.

There is still another woman in the drama—a withered little woman with a gentle face wrinkled with age and a tragic look in her tired eyes.

MOTHER SOOTHES CLARA. She is Clara Smith Hamon's mother. She is used to heart breaks, as all mothers are.

She sits beside her daughter in the court room, some times holding her hand, sometimes gently soothing her as she weeps.

She left the bedside of her aged husband, who is dying in El Paso, Tex., from tuberculosis. It was "father's wish" that she should come.

She had reared five children and bled two others.

With her wrinkled hands clasped motionless in her lap, she told today of her girl, Clara. It was a story of mother love defying all the world with its faith.

"Clara always was a good girl at home," she said. "We were just poor folks. She went to work at sixteen and helped out at home with her wages. She would come home every week and study and practice her piano lessons. We always felt Clara would make something of herself. She was so ambitious and never minded hard work."

DOUBTED WIFE'S STORY. "I just couldn't believe it about her and this man. When I heard that she was working for him and seemed to be doing well. We were so proud of her and so grateful to him for helping her. His wife came to me once, but I couldn't believe it even then."

Her hands moved and her mouth trembled.

"It wasn't until four years later that we got to know the truth. It nearly killed us—father and me."

"Maybe I was to blame. I told myself, but I had done all I could to bring her up to know right from wrong. Girls when they are in love don't think. I begged her to leave him, but she wouldn't listen. She loved him and just couldn't understand, I guess."

"She was so young, my poor girl. PUTS BLAME ON JAKE."

"It was he who was bad. He wronged my girl, he wronged his wife and children. He brought only misery to our homes. Clara is a sick girl now because of his treatment. It has been only shame for her and us."

"If she was guilty of murder, I just couldn't live on, but she isn't guilty. She has suffered so much, my poor girl."

"If she was bad—but she isn't. She's come back to us. She's my little girl again—my Clara as she used to be."

When court convened this morning (Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

JAMES A. STILLMAN, president of the National City Bank, New York, with his wife, whom he is suing for divorce, and their son, Guy Stillman, born in 1918. Mrs. Stillman, the former "Fifi" Potter, has started a counteraction. The father's suit involves the right of little Guy to inherit a great fortune. The couple have two other children.



## Stillman's Suit Laid To Wife's Love For Half-Breed 'Apollo'

NEW YORK, March 12.—Far up in the province of Quebec, in the Canadian north woods, lies the tiny village of St. Ilmans. Three miles away, at Three Rivers, is "Camp Ilmans," the hunting lodge of James A. Stillman, millionaire president of the National City Bank.

In this summer paradise is woven the "atmosphere" for what promises to develop into one of America's bitterest legal battles—the divorce suit of Stillman and the counter charges of his beautiful wife, Anne Urquhart ("Fifi") Potter Stillman.

A half-breed guide, part Indian part French-Canadian, wondrously versed in woodcraft, is named as co-respondent by the famous financier.

Breaking through concerted efforts at secrecy by artful and distinguished counsel, an amazing story of "behind scene" reasons for the Stillman matrimonial difficulties was revealed yesterday.

HALF-BREED GUIDE FIGURES. According to a source of unquestioned authority, Stillman's complaint alleges a remarkable romance between his lovely, vivacious wife and the half-breed guide, whom she is accused of addressing by such "terms of endearment" as "Apollo Belvedere" and "bronze statue."

This much has developed at the one referee's hearing held in New York—before the complaint has not been filed.

Guy Stillman, the twenty-six-month-old son of Mrs. Stillman, is mentioned with his mother in John's action. Because of this John has been ordered to set up an "affirmative defense," that is, to defend by attack.

The first motion to serve an amended complaint, the docket shows, was made before Supreme Court Justice Joseph Morschauser here last Saturday, together with an application for \$120,000 a year alimony, instead of \$60,000, and a \$25,000 counsel fee.

The hearing on this motion was adjourned until tomorrow when Justice Morschauser is expected to hear arguments. Daniel J. Gleason, surrogate of Dutchess county, who was appointed referee by Justice Morschauser, will take no part in these proceedings. It is not expected even that he will attend. As the hearing will have nothing to do with the taking of evidence, a procedure that will occur behind closed doors, it will not be secret.

FIRST ENTRY IN DOCKET. The first entry in the docket, in which the dates of the various legal steps already taken before Justice Morschauser are entered reads as follows:

"At a special term of the supreme court of the State of New York, held at New York, on March 11, 1921, the following proceedings were had:

Those who know the bank president's wife say that she has retained the auburn beauty for which she was famous in her youth.

Although now past forty and the mother of three children, she still knows the animation that was the delight of society when she was a debutante and a bride.

Best information is that it is not asserted in the complaint or by witdoresses that Mrs. Stillman and the half-breed still are friendly. In fact, it is not charged that she has seen him for about a year.

His whereabouts are said to be unknown. He was not present at the one hearing known to have been held and where natives of the North woods were questioned.

## HARDING KEEPS OFF R. R. ISSUE

Leaves Settlement of Controversy Over Wage Reductions To Labor Board.

Although President Harding is watching closely the railroad situation and action taken by the railroad executives looking to wage reductions, he is taking no official action, it was stated at the White House today.

The question of the reduction of wages is one which properly falls within the province of the Railway Labor Board, the President holds, it is understood, and there is little likelihood of any Executive action unless the Railway Labor Board brings the matter before the Chief Executive.

PAVORS CUMMINS' PLAN. President Harding is understood to have endorsed the proposal of Senator Cummins for a Congressional investigation of the operation of the railroads.

While all officials here are keeping in close touch with the railroad situation, the railway labor board is the only federal agency which is expected to take official cognizance of the proposed wage reductions at this time.

## WAGE REVISION STARTED BY TWENTY SYSTEMS

CHICAGO, March 12.—Tabulation of reports from railroad centers all over the United States shows that twenty systems have taken steps within the last three days to revise wages downward.

Reports from different parts of the country stated that eleven roads yesterday initiated efforts along this line. Eight took this action Thursday following the lead of the Pennsylvania system, which started the movement Wednesday.

The roads acting yesterday were Northern Pacific, Union Pacific, Great Northern, Chicago and Great Western, Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, Chicago and Alton, Lehigh Valley, New York, Ontario and Western, Maine Central, Washash, Boston and Maine.

Other roads that have announced proposed wage cuts are: New York Central; New York, New Haven and Hartford; Philadelphia and Reading; Santa Fe; Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul; Chicago and Great Western; Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific; Chicago and North Western.

The wage revisions will affect from 500 to 5,000 men on each road. On some of the lines only unskilled labor will be affected, while on others, maintenance of way employees and mechanics will be included. The plans so far announced do not include train service employees and telegraph operators. In several cases the rate of reduction has been announced as ranging from 15 to 20 per cent, but the majority of the lines are waiting to hold conferences with the workers.

One road, the Chicago and Great Western, took the lead among the Western lines in the matter of reductions by announcing that it proposed a 20 per cent decrease in the pay of every employee, from the president down, with the exception of train service men, telegraph operators, and unskilled men. The pay of unskilled workers would be brought down to conform with the rates paid in other industries, if possible. Conferences were held with the workers at Oelwein, Iowa, March 10. About 9,000 men will be affected. Its proposed policy was similar to that announced a few days ago by the Pennsylvania lines.

ASSERTS LETTER STOLEN. Mrs. Stillman, in great agitation, "admitted" that she was the "society woman" referred to, but denied that any legal action had been taken by either her husband or herself. She asserted the letters had been stolen.

In the first accounts of the differences between Mr. and Mrs. Stillman it was said that counter suits had been brought. An inspection of the docket of the Second Judicial Department, Ninth District, of the special term of the Supreme Court in Poughkeepsie yesterday revealed no legally recorded basis for believing that Mrs. Stillman has countered.

The records show, however, that she has applied for permission to amend her answer which was merely a sweeping denial of all the charges against her. It is the opinion of lawyers that she wishes to amend the answer in order to set up an "affirmative defense," that is, to defend by attack.

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## HARDING ENVOY SAID TO BE IN MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, March 12.—A special emissary from President Harding has arrived here to present to President Obregon the conditions on which the United States will recognize the government of Mexico. This is a report from an authoritative source.

The American agent, it is said, is empowered to indicate the approximate date for recognition, provided Obregon agrees to the terms.

It is also reported that, in the event of recognition, Nelson O'Shaughnessy has been selected as the new ambassador and that George Summerlin, present charge d'affaires, will go to a South American post.

The Harding Administration plans no immediate recognition of the Obregon government in Mexico, it was learned today. President Harding is known to be favorably inclined toward re-establishment of relations with the government below the Rio Grande, but he feels there is no need for haste.

SENATE HOLDS UP NOMINEES

District Committee Given Appointments and May Hold Public Hearings.

NEW HEADS ARE POPULAR

Selection of Democrat Is Approved by Business Interests of Capital.

Cuno H. Rudolph and Capt. James F. Oyster were today nominated by President Harding as Commissioners for the District of Columbia. The appointment, as usual, is for three years. The names were immediately sent to the Senate.

The nominations of Rudolph and Oyster were referred to the Senate District Committee this afternoon. It was announced on the Senate floor that requests for hearings before action on the nominations had been made by District citizens. The District Committee will meet at 10 o'clock Monday morning to decide whether hearings will be held.

The new Commissioners probably will take the oath of office Monday morning and immediately enter upon their duties as Commissioners for the District and also as members of the Public Utilities Commission. The Senate hearing is scheduled for Monday morning and the new Commissioners will sit with Col. Charles W. Kutz, the engineer Commissioner at that time.

The decision to send to the Senate the names of Captain Oyster and Mr. Rudolph was arrived at this morning after Samuel J. Prescott, vice chairman of the Central Republican Committee for the District of Columbia had called at the White House.

It is probable that Mr. Rudolph, who has served one term as District Commissioner, under President Harding, will be elected president of the Board.

Captain Oyster had not been officially notified up to the time the announcement was made at the White House, that they would be named for the places. As they had not been notified of their appointment, neither would make any announcement. Both said, however, that they would be glad to serve with each other, and both praised the qualifications of the other.

Mr. Rudolph said he was especially glad to serve with Captain Oyster, and called attention to the fact that he had been named with Captain Oyster by President Taft.

The personal affairs of both Mr. Rudolph and Captain Oyster are in such shape, it was said, that they can assume office immediately.

The announcement from the White House that Mr. Rudolph and Captain Oyster would be the District Commissioners was greeted with enthusiasm by the business men of the city and the people in general. Both men have the confidence of the community. It was said, and a progressive administration is looked forward to by business men.

G. O. P. SATISFIED. One of the leading Republicans of Washington, who has been a strong supporter of Captain Oyster, said today that he was glad that Washington was going to get back to the bipartisan Board of Commissioners, and was especially gratified that Captain Oyster was the Democrat to be appointed.

Having more backbone than any man who had ever held the position of District Commissioner and cited the instance when Captain Oyster opposed President Roosevelt in a school matter in Washington and finally not only won out in his contention, but gained the admiration of the President.

ESCH NOMINATION IS AGAIN BLOCKED

Put Over by Senate Until Next Legislative Day on Objection By La Follette.

Confirmation of the nomination of former Representative John J. Esch of Wisconsin as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission was again blocked in the Senate today by his political foe, Senator La Follette of Wisconsin.

Under the rules of the Senate the Esch nomination went over until the next legislative day on an objection by La Follette to its immediate consideration when it was favorably reported by the Senate Interstate Commerce Commission Committee.

The nomination of Mark W. Potter, of New York, for the Interstate Commerce Commission was confirmed by the Senate today.

Thomas O. Marvin, of Massachusetts, was confirmed as a member of the United States Tariff Commission.

## 8,000 DESERT SOVIET RANKS

Soldiers Said to Have Joined Rebels After Attack on Two Russian Cities.

LONDON, March 12.—The anti-Bolshevik insurgents in the Petrograd district have attacked Peterhof and Serghisovka, and 8,000 Soviet troops deserted to the rebels, according to a Reuter dispatch from Reval today.

The Daily Herald, organ of the British Labor party, printed the following dispatch from its Moscow correspondent, dated Friday night:

BASIS OF SPRING OFFENSIVE. "The present scare is part of a general scheme to delay trade agreements, influence President Harding, and lay the basis for a general spring offensive. I left Petrograd on February 28. Then all was quiet and there were no disorders. I have spoken to several travelers from Petrograd since, and they reported that city still quiet."

"The theaters in Moscow are open as usual. The Communist Congress is in session here."

"It is reported that Krasnaya Gorka has capitulated," said an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Reval. Previous advices had said that Krasnaya Gorka was held by the Reds and that its guns were bombarding the rebels' position.

PARIS, March 12.—Serge DeChes, who went to Stockholm by the Echo de Paris to investigate the extent of the Russian revolution against the Reds, today warned that news from Riga, Reval, and Helsingfors about Bolshevik defects should be received with the greatest reserve.

The writer said that even reports of the situation at Kronstadt (the insurgent stronghold) should be received with caution. He expressed the belief that the insurgents really support the Soviet, but were in mutiny against the harsh discipline imposed by Leon Trotsky.

The results of the London conference were discussed at a cabinet meeting this morning when the President met them with the same firmness that was displayed at London," declared Premier Aristide Briand today. "We are resolved not to recede from the line we have chosen."

Replying to criticism that the military and economic penalties against Germany will prove ineffective, the premier said:

"They will soon show their efficacy."

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PACKERS ACCEPT PLAN OF HARDING

Both Sides Agree to Submit Wage Controversy to Department of Labor.

CHICAGO, March 12.—President Harding's suggestion, offered through Secretary of Labor Davis, that the packers and their employees should submit their wage controversy to the department of labor, was accepted today.

Formal replies from both the packers and the unions are expected to be forwarded to the President today. No names of representatives have as yet been suggested.

At the headquarters of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, however, strike ballots, printed yesterday, were being mailed out to the 400 local unions throughout the United States.

At the offices of the big packers here plans were going forward for putting into operation on Monday the reduction in wages and the changes in hours of labor that were announced last week. These changes will affect 200,000 workmen in all parts of the United States.

## LEHIGH VALLEY ROAD PLANS CUT IN WAGES

HAZLETON, Pa., March 12.—The Lehigh Valley railroad posted notices today announcing wage cuts affecting all classes of employees except members of the four big brotherhoods, ever since April 15.

The amount of reductions is to be fixed at a conference with General Manager J. F. McGuire at Bethlehem. The date to be fixed later. The wages of laborers were recently cut from 10 to 15 per cent and it is believed the same ratio will prevail in the wage cuts of other workers.

## PENNSY'S CUT EXPECTED TO BE 12-12 PER CENT

PHILADELPHIA, March 12.—The Pennsylvania Railroad's wage cut, announced Wednesday and now being worked out in detail, will amount to about 12 1/2 per cent of present pay in the "classified group" of workers according to estimates today. These were not official figures. They came, however, from an authentic and well-informed source and were based on the preliminary discussion among officials.

The salaries of executives will be cut even more deeply. It is said among those close to the situation, that the wages of classified employees. The rumor is that as much as 20 per cent will be cut from the big salaries of high officials.

## SEVEN SINN FEINERS KILLED IN SKIRMISH

LONDON, March 12.—Seven Sinn Feiners were killed in County Leitrim, Ireland, when a detachment of thirty British soldiers was attacked near Selton Hill, said a Central News dispatch from Dublin today.

The troops were attacked from entrenchments erected as part of an ambush. The soldiers returned the fire and a fierce battle ensued.